

PATENT**IBM Docket No. RAL920000118US1****Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A data structure, system and method of searching the data structure ~~are disclosed~~ are provided. The system includes a data structure having a Direct Table (DT), Patricia-Trees, Pointers and high speed storage systems such as Contents Address Memory (CAM). The DT has a plurality of entries with each one coupled to a Patricia Tree having multiple nodes coupled to leaves. The number of Nodes, termed a threshold, that can be traversed to obtain information in the leaves is limited to a predetermined value. Once the threshold is reached a pointer indicates the address of the CAM and the address of the leaves is stored in the CAM. By using the ~~disclosed~~ structure and method the latency associated with tree search is significantly reduced.

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